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COUNTY OF BANFF

REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH of the COUNTY

For the Year 1951

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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For the Year 1951

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Printed by The Banffshire Journal Ltd., 9 Old Market Place, Banff

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND, AND BANFF COUNTY COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the County during 1951.

The report is submitted in terms of Section 79 and 87 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1947 and is prepared in accordance with the suggestions set forth in D.H.S. Circular No. 128/1951, dated 11th December 1951.

Towards the close of this year the County suffered a grievous loss in the death, in office, of Dr Daniel I. Walker, County Medical Officer of Health since 16th May 1939.

Dr Walker brought to all aspects of Health Work both a breadth of vision and conscientiousness in detail which formed a most happy combination. A man of outstanding personal integrity and unlimited human sympathies, he was an inspiration to all with whom he came in contact, and in his death the community at large mourn not only the passing of a faithful public servant but the loss of a true friend.

My thanks are due to the Chairman of the Health Committee, the Chairmen of Sub-Committees, members of the staff and officials and members of other departments of the Council for their co-operation, loyal devotion to duty and willing help.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

JAS. A. BUCHANAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Dickson, Rev. G. A. M., The Manse, Fordyce, Portsoy (Chairman) —1, 2, 3.*
Abercromby, Col. Sir G. W., Bart., D.S.O., Forglen House, By Turriff (Ex-Officio)—3.
Boardman, Treasurer G. H., Strathlea, Seafield Avenue, Keith—1.
Corrigall, D., M.A., J.P., Longhope, Rothiemay—3.
Findlater, A. J., Hillside of Jackston, Longmanhill—1, 2, 3.
Fraser, Bailie A., 2 Land Street, Keith—1, 2.
Gordon, Mrs E. G., Buchromb, Dufftown—1, 3, 5.
Gordon-Duff, Lt.-Col. T. R., Drummuir, Keith—3.
Gray, Wm., No. 3 Bogroy Crescent, Brodiesord, Cornhill—3.
Hall, Provost J., 43 Duff Street, Macduff.
Hendry, Provost G., M.B., Ch.B., J.P., "Treryn," 93 West Church Street, Buckie—1.
Keir, Provost J., Ardmannoch, Cullen—1, 2.
Law, Bailie J. B. S., "Ellerslie," Sandyhill Road, Banff—4.
Mackenzie, Mrs M., The Manse, Aberlour—1, 3.
M'Lean, Wm. J., Mill of Rathven, Buckie—3.
M'Nicol, R. C. A., Knock Farm, Grange—2, 3.
Milne, J. W., Paddocklaw, By Banff—3.
Morrison, Bailie G., Market Street, Macduff.
Reid, Bailie P., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Kinbrace, 53 East Church Street, Buckie.
Robertson, Bailie G. O., 3 St Ann's Terrace, Banff—2, 4.
Scott, Dean of Guild J., J.P., 8 Blantyre Terrace, Ianstown, Buckie (Vice-Chairman)—2.
Taylor, Bailie P., 97 High Street, Aberlour.
Thomson, Provost J. J. M., 7 St Catherine Street, Banff—4.
Wilson, Major G. A., Hamewith, Keith—3.
Wood, Bailie G., Mount Pleasant, Schoolhendry Street, Portsoy 1, 2, 5.

* *Member of Sub-Committee numbered below.*

1. *Homes.*—
   Revd. G. A. M. Dickson (Chairman).
   Ex-Provost Merson (Co-opted).
   Mrs Taylor (Co-opted).

2. *Nursing and Allied Services.*—
   Provost J. Keir (Chairman).
   Mrs Grant.

3. *Housing.*—
   Lt.-Col. T. R. Gordon-Duff (Chairman).
   Mr Alex. Forbes.
   Mrs Grant.
   Mr D. Reid

4. *Food and Drugs Prosecutions.*—
   Provost J. J. M. Thomson (Chairman).
   Bailie Raffan.

5. *Advisory Co-ordinating for Local Health Functions* (*vide D.H.S. Circular* No. 85/1947.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Care of Mothers and Young Children	13
Committees	4
Death—age at	10
Death—causes of	9
Domestic Help	24
Health Education	36
Health Visiting	15
Home Nursing	15
Ice-Cream	34
Immunisation against Diphtheria	25
Infectious Diseases	32
Meat Inspection	34
Mental Health Service	33
Midwifery	15
Milk	34
National Health Service (Scotland) Act	13
Port Sanitary Administration	33
Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care	25
Research	40
School Health Service	33
Staff	6
Tuberculosis	26
Vaccination	24
Vital Statistics	9

STAFF

County Medical Officer of Health

DANIEL I. WALKER, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Deceased 10/12/51).

Assistant Medical Officer of Health

JAMES A. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

County Sanitary Inspector

GEORGE EATON.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector

ALEXANDER M'BOYLE.

Superintendent of Nurses and Supervisor of Midwives

ISABELLA FARQUHAR, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Milk Officer

JUANITA PHILIP.

Clerkesses

BATHIA MASSIE.

MABEL MAIR.

ELIZABETH J. L. FORDYCE (Resigned 15/10/51).

DOROTHY M. LAIRD (Appointed 5/10/51).

MIDWIVES, HEALTH VISITORS, GENERAL AND SCHOOL NURSES.

AREA IN WHICH EMPLOYED.	DISTRICT NURSING SISTER.
Aberlour	H. Gloyer
Banff	I. Sim
Boharm	I. Gordon
Boyndie and Banff Landward	I. Moggach
Buckie and Rathven (Central)	M. B. Morrison resigned 15/1/51.
	J. T. N. Grant, resigned 4/10/51.
	E. Macaskill appointed 28/6/51.
	E. E. M. Calder, appointed 24/10/51.
Findochty and Rathven (Eastern)	A. E. Thomson
Fordyce and Portsoy	A. Roy
Gardenstown and East Gamrie	M. S. Blackhall
Grange	I. G. Pearson
Inveravon and Glenlivet	M. A. Mathieson
Keith	A. Stronach
Keith Landward and Botriphnie	A. R. Kidd
Kirkmichael and Tomintoul	M. A. Gregory
Knock, Ordiquhill and Rothiemay	H. J. G. Cameron
Macduff	A. G. Campbell
Marnoch and neighbouring parishes	H. C. Cameron, resigned 30/9/51.
	J. C. Young,
	Muriel J. Tocher, appointed 9/11/51.
Mortlach	I. M'Kenzie
Portgordon and Rathven Western	J. Middleton
Portknockie, Cullen and Deskford	K. M'Grory

HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE.

Buckie ..... F. Smith

MIDWIFE (PRIVATE) (Part-Time).

Cullen, Portknockie and Deskford—F. M. Foster.

AREA AND DISTRICT OFFICERS

and (along with the Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health)

AUTHORISED OFFICERS IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Buckie—Chief Area Officer, John Donaldson.
Banff—Area Officer, Duncan Kennedy.
Keith—Area Officer, Charles G. Taylor.
Aberchirder—District Officer, R. B. Wilson (also rent collector).
Portsoy—District Officer, James Stewart.

BURGH SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Aberchirder—George Eaton.
Aberlour—George Eaton.
Banff—David Malcolm.
Buckie—John Murray.
Cullen—George Legge.
Dufftown—Edward M'Cormack.
Findochty—James Simpson (part-time).
Keith—A. M. Lochhead.
Macduff—John C. Miller.
Portknockie—R. M. Fulton (part-time).
Portsoy—W. E. Goodfellow.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

1. **ABERCHIRDER—(Monthly).**
   District Nursing Sisters—H. G. Cameron (resigned 30/9/51), J. C. Young and Muriel M. Tocher (appointed 9/11/51).
2. **BANFF—(Monthly).**
   Medical Officer—J. C. Galloway, M.B., Ch.B.
3. **BUCKIE—(Weekly).**
   Medical Officer—A. W. M'Haffie, M.B., Ch.B.
4. **CULLEN—(Monthly)** (Opened 1st May 1951).
   District Nursing Sister—K. M'Grory.
5. **FINDOCHTY—(Monthly)** (Opened 8th May 1951).
   District Nursing Sister—A. Thomson.
6. **GARDENSTOWN—(Bi-Monthly).**
   District Nursing Sister—M. S. Blackhall.
7. **MACDUFF—(Monthly).**
   Medical Officer—James Morrison, M.B., Ch.B.
8. **PORTSOY—(Monthly).**
   Medical Officer—J. W. Macrae, M.B., Ch.B.
9. **WHITEHILLS—(Monthly).**
   Medical Officer—William F. Ingram, M.B., Ch.B.

COUNTY OF BANFF.

REPORT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the Year 1951.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of County (acres)	403,053
Population of County (1951 Census)	50,135
Population estimated to middle of year 1951	50,108
Gross Valuation	£397,247 5 7
Rateable Value	£247,014 15 0

VITAL STATISTICS
(Corrected for Transfers)

LIVE BIRTHS (including Illegitimate)	886
—Rate per 1000 population	17.7
LIVE BIRTHS—Illegitimate	75
—Rate per 100 live births	8.5
STILL BIRTHS	16
—Rate per 1000 total births (including still births)	18
MARRIAGES	333
—Rate per 1000 population	6.6
DEATHS—All causes	667
—Rate per 1000 population	13.3
—Tuberculosis—All forms	8
Tuberculosis (Respiratory System)	7
—Principal Epidemic Diseases	13
—Children aged under 1 year	30
—Rate per 1000 Live Births	34

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following Table gives the causes of the deaths occurring during the years:—

Tuberculosis of respiratory system	7	Other respiratory diseases	1
Tuberculosis other forms	1	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	8
Syphilis and its sequelae	—	Appendicitis	—
Typhoid fever	—	Intestinal obstruction and hernia	5
Dysentery all forms	—	Gastritis and duodenitis	3
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat	—	Diarrhoea (except of new-born)	3
Diphtheria	—	Cirrhosis of liver	2
Whooping cough	—	Other diseases of liver	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	Other digestive diseases	3
Acute poliomyelitis	—	Nephritis and Nephrosis	6
Measles	—		
Bronchitis	14		

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Other infective and parasitic diseases	2
Malignant neoplasms	111
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1
Diabetes mellitus	2
Anaemias	6
Other general diseases	8
Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system	95
Nonmeningococcal meningitis	—
Other diseases of nervous system	8
Rheumatic fever	—
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1
Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	214
Other diseases of heart	16
Hypertension with heart disease	9
Hypertension without heart disease	10
Other circulatory diseases	21
Influenza	12
Pneumonia	8
Hyperplasia prostate	6
Other diseases of genito urinary system	7
Puerperal Sepsis including post-abortive sepsis	—
Other puerperal causes	1
Diseases of skin and organs of locomotion	5
Congenital malformations	10
Birth injuries, post natal asphyxia and atelectasis	5
Pneumonia of the newborn	2
Diarrhoea of the newborn	1
Other infections of the newborn	—
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	6
Senility	14
Cause ill-defined and unknown	9
Suicide	3
Motor Vehicle accidents	6
Other road transport accidents	1
Other violence	12
ALL CAUSES	667

The number in 1950 was 591.

In Children under 1 year

Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1
Pneumonia	5
Congenital Malformations	7
Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	5
Pneumonia of the newborn	2
Diarrhoea of newborn	1
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy	6
Other violence	1
Causes ill-defined and unknown	2
Total	30

Of the 30 deaths in children under 1 year, 4 died in a hospital and 1 died in an ambulance on the way to hospital.

The number of deaths among children between 1 and 4 inclusive was 5, the causes of death being one each of Gastritis and Duodenitis, Meningococcal Infection, Other Violence and 2 of Congenital Malformations.

The number of deaths among children between 5 and 14 years inclusive was 3, being one each of Tuberculosis other forms, Malignant Neoplasms and Bronchitis.

One death of women "during pregnancy or within four weeks thereafter" was brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health. The case was that of a married primipara who was confined in hospital. The cause of death was adherent placenta, secondary haemorrhage.

Age Incidence of Death

Ages...	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+
Deaths	30	5	3	–	6	10	17	34	91	156	232	83

In the Table given below there is detailed the name of the Registration Districts in the County along with the name of the respective Registrar and the number of Deaths, Births and Still-births registered in each district.

District	Registrar	Numbers Registered		
		Deaths	Births	Still-Births
Aberchirder	R. B. Wilson	27	33	1
Aberlour	A. G. M'Gregor	34	11	—
Alvah	W. Henderson	7	—	—
Banff	W. S. Leask	87	234	3
Banff Landward	W. S. Leask	5	—	—
Boharm	J. Milton	6	7	—
Botriphnie	R. Blackie	3	6	—
Boyndie	J. Gavin	17	3	—
Buckie	J. Donaldson	81	235	1
Cabrach	W. M'Donald	1	—	—
Cullen	J. S. Ogilvie	32	8	—
Deskford	R. Cruickshank	4	3	—
Dufftown	C. J. V. Parr	37	67	2
Findochty	J. Donaldson	15	6	1
Fordyce	A. G. Thompson	9	10	—
Forglen	Mrs H. J. Yeats	1	2	—
Gamrie	R. Goodlad	18	6	—
Glenlivet	Mrs M. Stuart	10	5	—
Glenrinnes	R. J. Low	1	—	—
Grange	Miss J. Wright	6	8	—
Inveravon	A. Grant	1	4	—
Inverkeithny	Miss M. E. Fraser	6	3	—
Keith	C. G. Taylor	68	145	4
Keith Landward	C. G. Taylor	18	14	—
Kirkmichael	Mrs V. A. M'Arthur	2	1	—
Macduff	D. Kennedy	20	11	—
Marnoch	R. B. Wilson	9	8	—
Mortlach	C. J. V. Parr	6	—	—
Ordiquhill	Wm. Riddoch	—	3	—
Portsoy	J. Stewart	27	10	1
Rathven	J. Donaldson	23	12	—
Rothiemay	G. Pirrie	5	3	—
Seafield	Douglas J. Kneale	22	10	—
Tomintoul	Mrs B. Leslie	6	2	—
	Total ...	614	870	13

The total last year was respectively 518, 949 and 23.

A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS.

1. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 22).

No special provision in the case of premature infants nursed at home had to be made.

A quantity of proprietary baby foods and food supplements were sold or issued to mothers mainly through the various clinics.

Three families, who were in straitened circumstances, were supplied with beds and bedding, clothing and towels per the County Council and the Red Cross.

Two new Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics were set up during the year, one at Cullen which commenced on the first Tuesday in May and one at Findochty which commenced on the third Tuesday in May. These clinics were conducted by the respective District Nursing Sisters. A weighing machine was purchased for use in connection with above.

The Health Committee on 24/9/51 approved the arrangements made for the holding of the Child Welfare Clinic in the Public Hall, Whitehills, once per calendar month at a cost of 7/6 per meeting, commencing on 23rd October 1951, as reported by the County Medical Officer in his letter dated 20th August 1951.

(i) Ante-natal and post-natal service.

No ante-natal or post-natal clinics were provided either by the Local Health Authority or by Voluntary Organisation apart from the Child Welfare Clinics specified overleaf.

(ii) Child Welfare Clinics.

	No. of Clinics provided at end of year.	No. of Children who first attended the Clinics during year and who on the date of their first attendance were:—		Total No. of Attendances made during year by Children who at end of year were:—	
		Under 1 year of age.	Over 1 year of age.	Under 1 year of age.	Over 1 year of age.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Local Health Authority Clinics	9	243	142	2161	2343
Clinics provided by Voluntary Organisations	None	—	—	—	—

(iii) Dental Care.

No Expectant Mothers or Nursing Mothers were inspected by Dental Officers during the year.

(iv) Mother and Baby Homes.

The arrangement entered into with the management of the Aberdeen Mother and Baby Home, Richmondhill House, 22 King's Gate, Aberdeen, with a view to making financial contribution towards the care of cases from Banffshire was continued. The object of the Home is "to care for and instruct unmarried mothers, who for any reason cannot be looked after by their own relatives, and to give their babies as good a start in life as possible."

During the year ending 31st December 1951 two applications were received. One was rejected on the grounds that the expectant mother was not ordinarily resident in this County. The other case was admitted on 18/12/51—the approximate date of the confinement being 12/2/52.

The arrangement made included the payment by the Council of £1 5/- per week in approved cases.

(v) Day Nurseries (including 24-hour nurseries).

No nurseries were provided either by the Authority or by Voluntary Organisations or by firms of manufacturers.

(vi) Residential Nurseries.

(vii) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

No application was received regarding either Nursery premises or Child Minders.

2. MIDWIFERY. (Section 23).

3. HEALTH VISITING. (Section 24).

4. HOME NURSING. (Section 25).

Of the twenty-three of a nursing staff employed directly by the Council nineteen were members of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and contributions at the rate of £13 16/- per member were paid towards the running costs of the Institute.

Any woman wishing the services of a midwife secures same by contacting the Health Department, the Superintendent of District Nursing Sisters or, as in the majority of cases, the midwife directly, who in turn immediately informs the Health Department of the cases accepted by her. An increased number of maternity cases were treated in hospital. After the mother and baby are discharged from hospital the District Nursing Sister in the appropriate area is notified and "follow-up" care is done by her.

One District Nursing Sister was provided with a new car, namely a Ford 8, for the Cairnie and Grange area.

18 districts are served by District Nurses driving Council's cars and there is one car which is partly used as a relief car and by the Superintendent of Nurses when visiting the District Nursing Sisters on routine examination annually; also by the Health Visitor in Buckie when she has distances to cover greater than she can cope with on her cycle; that is, 19 cars are used on the nursing service. Three of the cars were originally licensed in 1945. The

total number of miles covered by the nineteen cars was 131,422. The actual cost of upkeep of cars last year was £1,929, that is approximately £100 per car for the year—a figure which is not at all unreasonable. The remaining district, Banff, is served on bicycle or on foot.

Two old bicycles in use at Buckie and Aberchirder were sold and a new bicycle for the Buckie District purchased at a cost of £21 6s 2d.

One of the nurses continued to do work in an area involving part of Aberdeenshire. Two nurses employed by Aberdeenshire did work throughout the year in an area which included parts of Banffshire Similarly a small portion each of Banffshire and Morayshire was nursed respectively by nurses from Morayshire and Banffshire. In each of these inter-county arrangements services were looked upon as equivalent as far as the neighbouring county was concerned and therefore were looked on as not entailing any financial adjustment.

The special arrangement whereby the Aberlour District Nursing Sister would carry out any necessary nursing work in the Aitkenway portion of Morayshire continued in operation. No nursing visits were paid to the area during 1951.

District Nursing Sister Blackhall, Gardenstown, attended at the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children on Tuesday, 9th October 1951 for instruction in Physiotherapy measures.

An Honorarium of £8 8/- was given to Miss M. M. Christie for driving District Nursing Sister's car while District Nursing Sister Sim was doing relief work in the Banff Landward and Boyndie area.

District Nursing Sister Sim, Banff area, was granted one month's leave of absence to visit her relations in Canada.

An additional Minnitt Gas and Air Analgesia apparatus for use in the Macduff/Gardenstown area at a cost of £22 was purchased, making the total now used in the County by the District Nursing Sisters 7.

Three sets of Russell's Pocket Urine Testing Outfits for the Domiciliary Nursing Service were sanctioned and purchased at a cost of 14/- each, plus the cost of re-agents.

While Sister M'Kenzie, Dufftown, was absent from duty through illness, arrangements were made for a substitute nurse who, however, was not a car driver and arrangements were made for a driver to take the temporary nurse to the rural areas.

The County Architect was instructed to examine and report on the condition of the dwelling house and premises of the District Nursing Sister at Bridgend, Glenlivet, and obtain offers for the necessary work. Nothing, however, was done in this regard as alterations would be too extensive and expensive.

The Inveravon and Glenlivet District Nursing Association handed over to the County Council the Nurse's Cottage at Bridgend, Glenlivet, and the Feu Charter of same, with articles of furniture belonging to the Association and the sum of £116 17s 7d being the total assets of the Association, with the recommendation that they be used for the same purpose as at present.

The County Nursing Association handed over the balance remaining at the credit of the Association, namely, £932 13s 2d, to be used for the following purpose: "To be operated as a separate fund to improve the amenities of, or the purchase of equipment used by District Nurses in the County, or for the provision, when considered necessary, of additional equipment or invalid food for deserving poor in the County."

Christmas Gifts to necessitous poor and sick persons were distributed through the District Nursing Sisters. The scheme proved very successful. A sum of £20 was allocated to the scheme and 92 persons benefited.

Outside painter work was done at the dwelling-house and garage at 15 Allachy Terrace, Aberlour, at a cost of £38.

An up-to-date cupboard at a cost of £16 was purchased to replace an old and cumbersome cupboard to hold the nursing equipment for the Grange Nursing area. The old cupboard was disposed of.

The recommendations in D.H.S. Circular 102/1951 dated 10th September and relative N.M.C. Circular No. 19 relating to the Nurses' Salaries and in particular so far as this County is concerned to the Superintendent of Nursing Services, were adopted with retrospective effect from 1st February 1949; also in terms of D.H.S. Memo. 77/1951 and relative N.M.C. Circular No. 15 to pay to Miss Foster, private practising midwife, Cullen, an increase of £2 per case with retrospective effect from 1st February 1949.

A request was made by the Association of County Councils for submission of 2 names in connection with the Constitution of Regional Nurse Training Committees by the Secretary of State and the names of Miss Isabella Farquhar, Superintendent of Nurses, or as an alternative District Nursing Sister Blackhall, Gardenstown, were put forward.

The Medical Officer of Health met the District Nursing Sisters employed by the Council in conference at 3 centres, namely, Forgue, Keith and Buckie. At Forgue there were present Sisters from North Eastern area; at Keith Sisters from the Central and Southern areas and at Buckie Sisters from Western areas. These contacts were in addition to occasional and casual individual meetings on many occasions.

A private lock-up garage at 95 Land Street, Keith, was secured to house the car used by the District Nursing Sister for the Grange area at an annual rental of £7 10s.

A case was brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health of a pregnant woman whose child was born on 25/2/51 at home without either doctor or nurse being present. She had had ante-natal treatment from a doctor in the Keith area but after she had gone home prior to her confinement, her father refused admission to either doctor or nurse as he professes to be a Jehovah Witness.

Arrangements were made whereby District Nursing Sister Blackhall was to give a Course of Lectures fortnightly in Bracoden School.

In accordance with D.H.S. Circular No. 84/1951 dated 8th August the Medical Officer of Health recommended the purchase of 200 Maternity Outfits at an estimated cost of £145 8s 4d but after

discussion the Nursing and Allied Services Sub-Committee agreed that the provision of such Outfits might not rest with the Local Authority and that the matter would be raised with the Department of Health.

In accordance with letter dated 11th January 1951 an Enquiry into Virus Infection during pregnancy was set up. All the Midwives were circularised but the response into this research was disappointing.

40 articles of nursing equipment belonging to and stored at the County Depot of the Banff Branch of the British Red Cross Society were made available to persons in need of same, as follows:—

Electric Blanket	1	Sorbo-rubber Cushion	2
Wheelchair	12	Hair-mattress	1
Night Stool	1	Pair of Crutches	1
Rubber Sheeting	1	Gauze	2
Dunlopillo Mattress	2	Sputum Mug	1
Bed-pan	4	Urinal	1
Wooden Ended Hospital Bed	1	Water Bed	1
Air-bed	1	Total	40
Bed-rest	3		
Rubber Air Ring	5		

In addition there remained on loan from the Red Cross Depot throughout the whole year and issued in previous years:—

Bed-rests	2	Air Ring	4
Night Stool	1	Wheel Chair	9
Air Bed	2	Crutches	1
Rubber Sheeting	1	Bed Pan	4
Mattress	1	Sorbo-rubber Cushion	3
Urinal (Male)	1	Dunlopillo Mattress	2
Electric Blanket	1		

371 articles of nursing equipment in the hands of the respective District Nursing Sisters were also issued on loan as follows:—

Bed, Air (half size)	7	Sputum Mugs	3
Bed, Air (full size)	—	Douche Can	14
Bed Cradle	5	Feeding Cup	20
Bed Pan	47	Funnel, Glass or Enamel	21
Bed Rest	8	Mackintosh Sheeting	38
Bedette, Rubber	3	Ring, Air	34
Binder	—	Syringe, Higginson's	38
Bowl, Enamel	44	Syringe, Hypodermic	41
Breast Pump	7	Undine	1
Dunlop Mattress	1	Urinal	32

The following articles with a few additional minor items of nursing equipment are held by District Nursing Sisters in their respective areas:—

	Bed-Air	Bed-cradle	Bed-pan	Bed-rest	Bedette	Bowl (Enamel)	Breast Pump	Feeding Cup	Funnel (Glass or Enamel)	Mackintosh Sheeting	Ring-Air	Syringe (Higginson's)	Syringe (Hypodermic)	Urinal	Total
Aberlour	—	—	4	1	1	1	—	2	1	3	4	2	2	2	23
Aberchirder ...	1	1	1	—	—	6	1	1	2	2	2	4	4	1	26
Banff	1	1	4	—	—	2	1	2	2	4	2	1	3	1	24
Buckie	—	—	2	—	—	9	—	1	2	2	3	2	4	4	29
Dufftown	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	1	3	1	1	2	1	14
Drummuir ...	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	3	2	2	15
Findochty ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	1	2	10
Gardenstown	—	1	3	—	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	2	23
Glenlivet	—	—	3	1	1	1	—	1	1	5	2	2	3	2	22
Grange (Keith)	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	—	10
Keith	3	2	3	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	5	21
Knock	1	1	3	—	—	3	—	1	1	2	—	2	2	2	18
Macduff	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	2	1	3	—	1	1	1	14
Mulben	—	—	4	1	—	4	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	1	16
Portgordon ...	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	5	2	3	3	2	19
Portknockie ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	3	1	1	2	3	—	13
Portsoy	2	—	3	—	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2	2	22
Tomintoul ...	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	2	1	3	14
Whitehills ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	5
	9	6	45	9	4	39	5	20	22	42	28	35	41	33	338

Articles not in the hands of one District Nursing Sister may be borrowed from another or from the Medical Loan Depot of the Banff Branch of the British Red Cross Society. Perishable articles are replaced as the need arises. Necessary articles neither available by the prescription of a general medical practitioner nor held in stock by any of the District Nursing Sisters may require to be purchased.

56 Midwives notified their intention to practice, 25 of them being employed in hospitals.

As Supervisor of Midwives, Miss Farquhar paid two visits to each Midwife. The work records and equipment were found to be satisfactory.

As Superintendent of Nurses, Miss Farquhar paid 50 visits to the Nurses and on one or other occasion she accompanied them to the homes of their patients with a view to supervising the work they were doing. The work in each case was satisfactory, and in all cases the Nurse got a good reception from her patients. The inventories in Nurses' residences were checked. 76 patients and 20 schools were visited.

The 7 sets of Analgesia Apparatus were collected quarterly from the areas where they were located, namely, Banff, Buckie, Dufftown, Glenlivet, Keith, Portsoy and Macduff, and taken to the nearest hospital in the area for inspection by the Service Engineer.

The following are the details supplied on Health Services Form 15 :—

II. *Midwifery.*

(1) Total number of births occurring in the area during year, that is before correction for mother's residence :—
Live Birth, 860 ; Still Birth, 15 ; Total, 875.

(ii) Total number of births in (i) occurring in institutions (including private maternity homes), 677.

(iii) Total number of births in (i) occurring at home, 198.

(iv) Number of births in (iii) classified to show nature of attendance at birth :—

	Cases dealt with under Section 23(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947.			Other domiciliary Cases.			
	Doctor engaged and present at confinement.	Doctor engaged and not present at confinement.	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged).	Doctor engaged.	Midwife alone (no doctor engaged).	Without doctor or midwife.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
(a) Midwives employed by the Authority (including those engaged on a fee-per-case basis)	99	89	None	7	None	3	198

No cases were dealt with by midwives employed by voluntary organisations or by Hospital Boards of Management under arrangements made by the Council or by private practising midwives.

(v.) Medical Aid.

(a) Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 22 (1) of the Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915, by a Midwife:—

		Total.
(i) for Domiciliary cases	1	1
(ii) for Institutional cases	None	

(b) Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year for cases where the Medical Practitioner had agreed to provide maternity medical services under the National Health Service ..... None

(vi) Administration of Analgesics.

(a) Number of Midwives in practice in the area qualified to administer gas and air analgesia in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board For Scotland:—

(i) Domiciliary	22	40
(ii) In Institutions	18	

(b) Number of domiciliary midwives who received their training during the year 1

(c) Number of Sets of Apparatus for the administration of gas and air in use at 31st December 1951 by domiciliary midwives employed by the Authority, or employed by Voluntary Organisations in the Authority's area 7

(d) Number on order at 31st December 1951 ... —

(e) Number of cases in which gas and air was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year 77

(f) Number of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year 69

(vii) Number of cars in use by midwives at 31st December 1951 20

III. *Health Visiting.*

	No. of Visits paid by Health Visitors during year.										
	Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age.		Children between the ages of 1 and 5.		Tuberculosis Cases.		Other Cases.		Visits Total Paid.
	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Health Visitors employed by the Authority	110	402	785	7203	621	7888	18	526	208	1577	17,596

IV. *Home Nursing.*

		No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses under arrangements made under this Section.	No. of Visits paid by Nurses to these Cases
(1)		(2)	(3)
Home Nurses employed directly by the Authority	Medical	1,316	
	Surgical	830	
		2,146	32,428

5. DOMESTIC HELP

The following are the details supplied on Health Services Form 15:—

(i) No. of Domestic Helps employed at end of year:—	
(a) whole-time	—
(b) part-time	5
(c) retaining fee basis	—
(ii) No. of cases for which Helps were provided during year	27
(iii) No. of cases in (ii) provided on account of confinement:—	
(a) at home	2
(b) in hospital	—
(iv) Average period of assistance	346 hours.

6. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26).

VACCINATION.

Leaflets explaining the desirability of infant vaccination were issued to Registrars of Births for the Registrars to hand to persons registering the birth of a child.

No emergency demand for vaccination arose. No publicity measures towards the securing of vaccination were taken apart from the personal recommendations of the health visitors and leaflets distributed by the Registrar on the registration of the birth.

The following is an extract of the details regarding vaccination supplied on Health Services Form 17:—

No. of persons primarily vaccinated:—

Typical vaccina greatest 7th to 10th day	374	
Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction 5th-7th day	5	
Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	—	
No local reaction	16	
Total		395

No. of persons re-vaccinated:—

Typical vaccina greatest at 7th-10th day	62	
Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction, 5th-7th day	9	
Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	16	
No local reaction	6	
Total		93
Grand Total		488

The grand total last year was 474.

The increases were for primary vaccinations 69 and for re-vaccinations a decrease of 55.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Stocks of A.P.T. were held in the Health Department for issue to general medical practitioners and for use at the school clinics conducted by the School Medical Officer and at the Child Welfare Clinics. Many of the general medical practitioners, however, prescribed and used a combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough prophylactic.

The following is an extract of the figures supplied on Health Services Form 16 regarding immunisations:—

No. under School Age	736
No. of School Age	112
No. re-immunised—all ages	888

The numbers last year were 636, 137 and 956 respectively.

Birthday Greetings cards issued by the Scottish Council for Health Education were timely issued to each of the babies born in 1950 so as to reach them on their first birthday. These cards offer some simple hints which should help to keep the baby fit including the importance of protection against diphtheria and smallpox.

7. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTERCARE (Section 27).

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

The following is an extract from the Health Services Form 7A as supplied by the Visiting Tuberculosis Physician for the area.

B.C.G. Vaccinations performed 1951

Group	Tuberculin tested		Negative re-actors		Successfully vaccinated	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
(a) Nurses	—	7	—	2	—	2
(b) Medical Students	1	—	1	—	1	—
(c) Contacts	23	16	16	11	16	11
(d) Others	—	1	—	1	—	1

This is the second year in which vaccination against tuberculosis has been carried out in the County. The procedure was offered in the first instance to negative reactors to tuberculin tests among students, nurses and children of active cases. There being no students in the area only nurses and contacts had to be considered and it is understood that all available were dealt with by the visiting tuberculosis physician.

Vaccination against tuberculosis is an attempt to produce a specific resistance. It is a means whereby a natural infection, to which the majority of people are prone, is replaced by an artificial controlled and modified infection. It is not a procedure to abolish infection but to prevent disease following infection. The value of the procedure is based on experience with animals and on controlled trials, carried out in many parts of the world. The evidence suggests that it can reduce the morbidity and the mortality of tuberculosis.

Additional nourishment was supplied to a number of tuberculosis patients being nursed at home and gift-parcels of food, received from the Red Cross Society's Scottish Branch Headquarters, Glasgow, were distributed in co-operation with the Banff Branch of the Society.

Two huts used in the Tuberculosis service which were at Ballindalloch and Macduff and which were unfit for transfer were advertised for sale and after offers had been received and considered they were sold for the sum of £22. There are remaining in the County 3 Tuberculosis Huts.

A young lad aged 9 years was maintained in Linn Moor Home, Culter, Aberdeenshire, for a period of convalescence at a charge of maintenance of £2 5s per week. The concurrence of the Secretary of State was obtained for this.

Leprosy became compulsorily notifiable as from 1st September 1951. No cases have been notified

The subjoined tables I to V give statistical details regarding the notification, the incidence, the hospitalisation, etc., of tuberculosis as supplied on Health Services Form 7.

Table I.—RETURN OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED AS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		AGE-GROUPS										
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total	Cases removed to hospital
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Respiratory	Males	—	1	—	—	4	1	1	6	—	13	12
	Females	—	1	1	1	2	3	—	3	—	11	5
	Total	—	2	1	1	6	4	1	9	—	24	17
Non-respiratory	Males	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	5
	Females	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	1	1	7	7
	Total	—	3	7	—	1	—	—	1	1	13	12
Respiratory and Non-respiratory	Males	—	3	4	—	4	1	1	6	—	19	17
	Females	—	2	4	1	3	3	—	4	1	18	12
Grand Total		—	5	8	1	7	4	1	10	1	37	29

The total number of notifications last year was 40, being respiratory 24 and non-respiratory 16.

Table II.—In all of these cases the diagnosis was confirmed.

Table III.—RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES WITH THEIR HOME RESIDENCE IN THE AREA WHO RECEIVED TREATMENT IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

			NUMBER OF PATIENTS					
			In Institutions on January 1	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the institutions†		In institutions on December 31
			1	2	3	4	5	6
Respiratory	Adults	Males	13	34	25	1	1	20
		Females	17	22	25	—	1	13
	Children	Males	1	1	1	—	—	1
		Females	1	1	1	—	—	1
Non-respiratory	Adults	Males	3	2	4	—	—	1
		Females	3	8	6	—	—	5
	Children	Males	—	9	7	—	1	1
		Females	—	13	10	—	—	3
	Total		38	90	79	1	3	45

†In column 4 are shown those who were in final residence 28 days or over.
In column 5 are shown those who were in final residence under 28 days.

Table IV.—RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE AREA AT 31st DECEMBER 1951 WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		NUMBER OF CASES IN AGE-GROUPS.									
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
Respiratory.											
1. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli found	Males	—	—	—	—	24	27	22	13	2	88
	Females	—	—	—	4	24	22	6	2	—	58
2. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli never found . .	Males	—	—	—	—	12	5	5	7	—	29
	Females	—	—	1	—	5	15	1	7	—	29
3. Sputum or other material not examined	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		—	—	1	4	65	69	34	29	2	204
Non-Respiratory.											
1. Abdominal	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
2. Spine	Males	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
	Females	—	4	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	8
3. Bones and joints (exclusive of spine)	Males	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
	Females	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	4
4. Superficial glands . . .	Males	—	4	5	6	—	2	—	—	—	17
	Females	—	2	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	7
5. Lupus	Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Other parts or organs . .	Males	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		—	13	12	10	7	3	—	1	—	46
Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Grand Total		—	13	13	14	72	72	34	30	2	250

Last year the Totals were 199 and 71 respectively.

Table V.—RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO DIED FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE AREA DURING THE YEAR WITH PARTICULARS AS TO PERIOD ELAPSING BETWEEN NOTIFICATION AND DEATH AND BETWEEN DISCHARGE FROM AN INSTITUTION AND DEATH.

Number of persons who died from tuberculosis	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
Of whom—	Males	Females	Males	Females
Not notified or notified only at or after death	—	—	—	—
Notified less than 1 month before death	—	—	1	—
,, from 1 to 3 months ,, ,,	—	—	—	—
,, ,, 3 to 6 ,, ,, ,,	—	—	—	—
,, ,, 6 to 12 ,, ,, ,,	—	—	—	—
,, ,, 1 to 2 years ,, ,,	1	—	—	—
,, over 2 years ,, ,,	4	2	—	—
Total	5	2	1	—
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an institution	—	—	—	—
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an institution	2	—	—	

The total last year was 3, 4, nil and nil.

One ex-service man was maintained in the British Legion Village, Preston Hall, Maidstone, Kent, where he is in training as an engineer.

Many contacts were made with Disablement Resettlement Officers regarding the employment or training of men whose respiratory tuberculosis had become arrested.

In many other conditions, including old age, was advice and necessary help given. In one case a bed was supplied and several were given Red Cross gift-parcels.

8. Control of Infectious Diseases.

The following is an extract of the details supplied on Health Services Form 6, regarding notifications:—

Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	6	Pneumonia, Acute Primary	36
Chickenpox	—	Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	2
Cholera	—	Poliomyelitis, Acute ...	1
Continued Fever	1	Puerperal Fever	—
Diptheria	—	Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Dysentry	142	Scarlet Fever	169
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	Smallpox	—
Erysipelas	1	Typhoid Fever	—
Jaundice, Acute infective	—	Paratyphoid A.	—
Malaria	—	Paratyphoid B.	—
Measles	—	Typhus Fever	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	Whooping Cough	164
Plague	—		
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	12	Total	535

In 1950 the total was 383.

Of the 535, 141 were removed to hospital.

The total increase of 152 over last year was due mainly to an increase in the Dysentery cases of 117, of the Scarlet Fever cases of 54, and of the Acute Primary Pneumonia cases of 19. Whooping Cough became notifiable only at the beginning of the year 1950 and there is a decrease of 24.

Only one case of Poliomyelitis was notified.

9. Mental Health Services.

The following particulars supplied by the Chief Area Officer, Mr John Donaldson, indicate the nature and amount of the work done:—

No. of persons removed to Mental Hospitals on Petition by Authorised Officers	31
No. of persons in the area boarded out or liberated on trial or probation	3
No. of home investigations made prior to liberation from Mental Hospitals	5
No. of Mental Defectives over 16 removed to Institutions or otherwise dealt with	—
No. of Mental Defectives under 16 removed to Institutions or otherwise dealt with	—
No. of Mental Defectives under guardianship	31
No. of home investigations made and reports transmitted to the General Board of Control for Scotland in respect of Mental Defectives	20

There continued to be experienced a very serious shortage of accommodation and facilities for the training and care of the mentally defective of all grades and ages. Some alleviation may be anticipated in the North East from the extension of Woodlands Home, Cults, and from the conversion of Ladysbridge Mental Hospital to a Certified Institution.

10. Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulations Act.

No application was received for the registration of premises as Nurseries or the registration of persons as child-minders during the year.

B. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

A separate report was furnished regarding this service for the year to 31st July 1951.

C. PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

Declarations of Health were received on form P.S.1, as follows:—

Port of call and number of vessels involved—Buckie	16
Nationality of Boats—Belgian	—
British	1
Danish	9
Faroese	—
Norwegian	1
Swedish	5
Cargo—Fresh Fish	11
Light	4
Ballast	1
Number of Crew	80
Average number of crew	5
Number of passengers	—

Two persons disembarking in London and immediately proceeding to addresses in this County, who were contacts of a case of small-pox, were investigated on arrival and kept under daily observation for the necessary period.

D. FOOD SUPPLY.

(1) Milk.

For details of this see report of the Sanitary Inspector. The Milk Officer attended a Conference in Stirling on 13th and 14th December 1951.

(2) Ice-Cream.

For details of this see report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(3) Meat and Other Foods.

The services of a Meat Inspector were requested by the various detention officers in the County and the inspections were carried out by the following:—

Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	228
Local Veterinary Surgeons	81
Medical Officers of Health	277
Total ...	586

Last year the total was 610.

(4) Food Hygiene.

No specific campaign was carried out but stress was laid on the importance of this in lectures given with the co-operation of the Director of Education and the Scottish Council for Health Education.

(5) Food Poisoning.

No known cases of food poisoning occurred.

(6) Nutrition.

No case of defective nutrition was brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health.

Under the School Medical Inspection Scheme there were found, during routine inspections, 14 cases with slightly defective nutrition.

E. MISCELLANEOUS.

1. National Assistance Act, 1948.

(i) Medical Supervision and provision of establishments.

The Local Health Authority provided under Section 21 accommodation for aged, infirm and other persons in need of care and attention, which was not otherwise available to them, as follows:—

Home	In Home at 1/1/1951	Admitted during year	Left Home during year	Died	In Home at 31/12/1951
The Linn, Keith.	22	9	4	7	20
Campbell Home, Cullen.	11	3	1	1	12
The Home, Balloch Road, Keith.	22	10	2	6	24
Craigmoray, Elgin.	14	12	9	—	17
Maud Hospital, Maud.	3	1	1	—	3
Other	2	1	—	—	3
Total ...	74	36	17	14	79

Continued efforts to acquire additional accommodation in an existing building suitable for conversion and adaptation as a Home for Old People were unsuccessful. During the year, the position in this County was fully discussed with officials of the Department of Health for Scotland and it is now hoped that the need may be met by the erection of a new building.

(ii) Registration and Inspection of Disabled or Old Persons' Homes

There are no homes of this nature located in the County other than the Homes controlled by the Local Authority. No action was therefore called for under Section 37.

(iii) Removals

The powers of compulsory removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention were exercised on only one occasion during the year.

(iv) Care of Property

The necessary action was taken in one instance during the year under Section 48.

(v) Burial or Cremation of the Dead

Action under Section 50 had to be taken on two occasions during the year. In both cases the deceased had been a patient in Ladysbridge Mental Hospital and no relatives or other persons were available to make suitable arrangements.

(vi) Welfare Services

(a) Blind Persons.

The services rendered by the Aberdeen Town and County Association for Teaching the Blind at their Homes as the agents of the Local Authority were satisfactory. The number of Registered Blind Persons ordinarily resident in the County at the end of the year was:— Male 34; Female 47.

In addition 4 males and 2 females were employed as trained workers and 4 males and 1 female were undergoing training in the workshops of the Royal Blind Asylum, Aberdeen, and 4 school-children were receiving education in special schools at the instance of the Education Authority.

Close co-operation is being maintained between the Chief Area Officer, the Ministry of Labour and National Service, the National Assistance Board and the Ophthalmic Surgeons.

(b) Deaf and Dumb Persons.

The number of deaf and dumb persons on the Register at 31/12/51 was 24 males and 14 females. The Aberdeen Deaf and Dumb Benevolent Society are providing an improving welfare service as the Agents of the Local Authority.

(c) Persons other than the Blind or Deaf and Dumb who are Substantially and Permanently Handicapped.

The Report of the Advisory Committee on the Welfare of Cripples and other handicapped persons was published during the year and has since been considered by the Homes Sub-Committee. The advice and guidance of the Area and District Officers is frequently sought by old people and handicapped persons. Individual cases brought to the notice of the Health or Welfare Departments are given every possible assistance.

2. Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act, 1938.

There are no registered Nursing Homes in the County.

3. Health Education

A considerable amount of informal instruction in health matters was given by District Nursing Sisters and by Class Teachers throughout the County and somewhat more systematically by the School Medical Officer on his visits to schools and the individual classrooms therein.

A formal campaign was organised, with the help of the Director of Education, when films on some aspects of health or accident prevention were shown by units of the Scottish Council of Health Education, whose co-operation and help is acknowledged.

At these showings and at those arranged for other dates a lecturer was present as follows:—

Place and Organisation.	Lecturer.
Townswomen's Guild, Banff Botriphnie Church Youth Fellowship Rothiemay W.R.I. Netherdale W.R.I.	Dr D. I. Walker, Medical Officer of Health.
Church of Boharm Women's Guild Findochty Youth Fellowship Portsoy West Church Club Rathven Youth Fellowship Marnoch Women's Guild Cullen Church Club Deskford Mutual Improvement Association Morinsh and District W.R.I. Inveravon W.R.I.	Dr Jas. A. Buchanan, School Medical Officer.
Findochty Church of Scotland Women's Work Party North Church Women's Guild, Buckie Cullen Townswomen's Guild	Miss Farquhar, Superintendent of Nurses.
Marnoch W.R.I. Buckie Townswomen's Guild	Mr A. M'L. Robertson, Senior Dental Officer.
1st Dufftown Girl Guides Ternemny and District Young Farmers' Club Trinity Church Guild, Banff Keith Townswomen's Guild Portgordon W.R.I.	Mr George Eaton, County Sanitary Inspector.
Alvah W.R.I.	Sister Young, District Nursing Sister, Aberchirder.

On most occasions there was a satisfactorily large audience and it is believed that the points made by the films and by the lecturers were appreciated and that the effort was of value.

4. Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944.

Of the 30 full-time employees of the Health Department, 3 are Registered Disabled Persons.

As the nominee of the Banff, Moray and Nairn Local Medical Committee the Medical Officer of Health remained a member of the Disablement Advisory Committee for Banffshire.

5. Bacteriological Examinations.

The following number of specimens of material were collected and sent for examination to the City Hospital Laboratory, Aberdeen :—

Diphtheria:	Throat and nose swabs	88
	Other Specimens	—
Upper Respiratory Tract Infections:	Throat and nose swabs—	
	Streptococci	67
	Vincents	10
	Other Organisms	55
Bacillary Dysentery:	Faeces	109
Poisoning Infections:	Blood culture	—
Enteric and Food	Widals	10
	Faeces	4
	Urines	—
Gastro-enteritis of infants:	Food	1
	Faeces	2
Tuberculosis:	Sputum	495
	Faeces	—
	Urines	5
	Pus	16
	C.S. Fluids	—
	Gastric contents	—
	Sensitivity (Streptomycin Tests)	14
	Animal Inoculations	80
Venereal Disease:	Wasserman Reaction	143
	Kahn Tests	135
	C.S. Fluids	3
	Gonococcal Complement Fixation Tests	5
	Pus Smears for Gonococci	22
Leptospiral Infections:	Agglutination	—
	Animal Inoculations	—
Undulant Fever:	Agglutinations	15
Glandular Fever:	Paul Bunnell Test	3
	Differential Count	1
Virus Diseases:	C.S. Fluids	—
General:	Blood culture	4
	Pus	42
	Sputum	44
	Pleural Fluid	8
	Cervical Swabs	6
	Urines	76
	Faeces	—
	Tissues for culture	—
	Other Animal Inoculation	4
	Preparation of Vaccine	2
	Antibiotic Sensitivity Tests	11
	C.S. Fluids (other than tuberculous or luetic)	2
	C.S. Fluids (others)	7
Water Examinations:	Domestic—Count and Bact coli	76
Milk:	Count and Bact. coli	376
	Animal Inoculations	31
	Milk for Organisms	1
Ice Cream:	Count and Bact. coli	13
	Total	1,984

CLINICAL ANALYSIS.

Complete Blood Count	211	
Differential Blood Count	92	
Blood Grouping Tests	6	
Blood for Malaria, etc.	1	
Faeces for Amoebic Dysentery	1	
Faeces for Ova and Worms	4	
Urines — General	76	
Blood — Biochemical	79	
Urines do.	5	
Faeces do.	63	
Gastric Contents do.	1	
C.S. Fluid do.	1	
Miscellaneous do.	1	
Pregnancy Test—Friedman	—	
Do. —Hogben	86	
Seminal Fluid	1	
Total		628

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Autopsies	—	
Histological Examinations	31	
Total		31

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Water	1	
Milk Fats	—	
Total		1
Grand Total of Bacteriological Examinations		2644

The total for last year was 2637.

Of the 2644 laboratory examinations 1058 were on behalf of hospitals, 1086 on behalf of medical practitioners and consultants and 500 on behalf of the Public Health Department.

6. Slaughterhouse and Knackers' Yards.

In terms of Section 33 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, licences were granted for two slaughterhouses as follows:—

William M'William, Marypark Bridge, Blacksboat, for premises at Marypark, and

W. R. Kelman, Benavon, Tomintoul, for premises at 33 Main Street, Tomintoul;

and for two Knackers' Yards as follows:—

R. L. Christie, Douglasbrae, Keith, for premises at Douglasbrae, Keith, and

James Christie, Junior, Muirfield, Glassaugh, Fordyce, for premises at Muirfield.

7. Anthrax Order, 1938.

During the year 94 deaths among animals were reported to the Police. None of these was diagnosed by the Veterinary Inspector as Anthrax.

8. Prevention of Accidents.

The Council renewed its membership subscription of £2 2/- of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and received from it posters and pamphlets which were displayed or distributed through the District Nursing Sisters at Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and otherwise. The posters were also exhibited in the windows of the Medical Loan Depot of the British Red Cross Society in Banff.

9. Research.

District Nursing Sisters in the respective areas took part in the Survey of Child Health and Development which is a progressive "follow-up" Survey organised by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Population Investigation Committee and the Institute of Child Health, London.

District Nursing Sisters also took part in a Job Analysis of Public Health Nursing organised by the Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust, London.

An enquiry into Virus Infection during pregnancy was set up at the request of the Department of Health for Scotland.

At the request of the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health for Scotland figures were returned in connection with an enquiry being carried out by the Medical Research Council into the risk of developing poliomyelitis, following injections for certain immunisations.

F. GENERAL SANITATION.

The County Sanitary Inspector deals with this in a most efficient manner. It is understood that the lack of a general refuse collecting service in the landward area of the County is a much felt want as many complaints are received about accumulations of household waste around new housing areas and in quarries and ditches.

Under the **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949,** a Rodent Officer was employed by the County and, under the supervision of the County Sanitary Inspector, much good work is being done to prevent destruction by rats and mice in the County.